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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/511,583 | 10/18/2004 | Herbert Baltes | 47610 | 5027 |
| 1609 | 7590 | 03/24/2006 | EXAMINER | |
| ROYLANCE, ABRAMS, BERDO & GOODMAN, L.L.P. | | | HOOK, JAMES F | |
| 1300 19TH STREET, N.W. | | | ART UNIT | |
| SUITE 600 | | | PAPER NUMBER | |
| WASHINGTON,, DC 20036 | | | 3754 | |

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/511,583 | Applicant(s) BALTES ET AL. | |
| | Examiner James F. Hook | Art Unit 3754 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10-18-04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Zahid.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dand. The patent to Dand discloses the recited hydro damper for attenuation of oscillations in systems operating with pressurized fluids comprising a damper housing 2 which has a longitudinal axis, a connecting block 27 for fluidic connection of the housing to a permanent system of pipes, a linking means 11 where selectable rotary positions can be had by aligning the bolt holes and having the housing positioned in any desired angle with respect to the system based upon which bolt holes are used in each piece. The connecting axis is at a right angle to the longitudinal axis, the system is connected to a pipe that is part of a pumping system which meets the language of claim 3, where the attachment is a ring of bolt holes with mounting screws.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dand.

The reference to Dand discloses all of the recited structure with the exception of mentioning SAE connections, however, such is considered an obvious choice of mechanical expedients to choose any appropriate connection means as such would only require routine skill in the art and routine experimentation to arrive at optimum types of connections which are known in the art and would meet specific codes.

Claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dand in view of Kuykendal. The patent to Dand discloses all of the recited structure with the exception of providing a fluid silencer in the housing which can also act as a hollow connecting piece with an opening therein to allow fluid entry. The reference to Kuykendal discloses that it is old and well known to provide dampeners with a silencing tube which can be provided with holes that allow fluid to enter the inner chamber of the housing where such can be used in systems with bladders, without, and in various configurations. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the dampener in Dand by providing a fluid silencer in the form of a tube that penetrates into the chamber of the housing and is provided with holes to allow flow into the chamber as suggested by Kuykendal where such is an equivalent structure as shown by the various configurations cited, where such would show improved dampening abilities.

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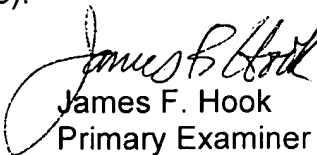
Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The references to Cornelsen, Chun, Sugimura, Cardenas, Plager, and Johannesson disclosing state of the art dampeners.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James F. Hook whose telephone number is (571) 272-4903. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Wednesday, work at home Thursdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Mar can be reached on (571) 272-4906. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


James F. Hook
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3754

JFH